Amount to be spent in Karnataka on improving safety etc.

453. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the amount proposed to be spent in Karnataka during 2003-04 on improving safety, relaying tracks developing railway platforms and introducing new signal system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL) : Railway Budget is prepared zone-wise and not State-wise. However, Karnataka State is mostly covered by South Western Railway apart from some stretches falling under the jurisdiction of Southern Railway, South Central Railway and Central Railway. The planheads mainly related to improving safety are track renewals, signalling and telecommunication (which include track relaying and new signalling system respectively), bridge works, road safety works—level crossing, road safety works road over/under bridge. The development/improvement to railway platforms is covered by planheads traffic facilities and passenger amenities. The gross budget allotment under these planheads for South Western Railway during 2003-04 is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Plan head	Outlay 2003-04
Traffic Facilities Works	7.92
Road Safety Works-Level Crossing	5.00
Road Safety Works-Road over/under Bridge	40.90
Track Renewals	41.10
Bridge Works	4.59
Signalling & Telecommunication	17.80
Passenger Amenities	5.71

Electric Train Project in Bangalore

454. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have consulted the Karnataka Government on the pending Bangalore Electric Train Project:

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the estimated cost of the above project; and

(d) what is the present status of the proposed project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) There is no such project with Ministry of Railways.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Platform tickets from machine

455. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are going to set up a platform ticket machine "drop coin get the platform ticket" at Bilaspur Railway Zone;

(b) if so, by when this machine is likely to be installed;

(c) the number of people who would be benefited by this facility;

(d) whether these machines would be provided to other Railway Stations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) to (c) At present there is no such proposal for setting up of Automatic Ticket Vending Machines for sale of platform tickets on South East Central Railway Zone, Bilaspur.

(d) to (e) The State-wise details of Platform Ticket Vending Machines presently available at various stations are as under:

Name of the State	No. of Stations
Kerala	2
Madhya Pradesh	1
Maharashtra	1
Tamil Nadu	4

Provision of platform ticket vending machine is a part of on-going process of improvement in ticketing system.